

## Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5899  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM POUCH  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE POUCH  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA POUCH  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS POUCH  
AMEMBASSY LONDON POUCH  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA POUCH  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO POUCH  
AMEMBASSY MASERU POUCH  
AMEMBASSY MBABANE POUCH  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
AMCONSUL DURBAN  
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM ECON SF

SUBJ: BLACK ATTITUDE SERIES: STATISTICAL PROFILE OF  
SOUTH AFRICA'S BLACK POPULATION

REF: 76 PRETORIA 5192

1. THE FOLLOWING IS A STATISTICAL PICTURE OF THE  
DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC POSITION OF THE BLACK POPULATION  
IN SOUTH AFRICA AS BACKGROUND TO THE BLACK ATTITUDES  
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SERIES. EXCEPT WHERE OTHER SOURCES ARE IDENTIFIED, THE  
STATISTICS ARE DRAWN FROM DATA PUBLISHED BY THE SOUTH  
AFRICAN DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS.

2. DEMOGRAPHIC POSITION:

A. AS OF MID-YEAR 1976, SOUTH AFRICA'S POPULATION  
(INCLUDING THE TRANSKEI) WAS ESTIMATED BY THE DEPARTMENT

OF STATISTICS AT 26.1 MILLION OF WHICH BLACKS COMPOSED 18.6 MILLION (71.2 PER CENT), WHITES 4.3 MILLION (16.4 PER CENT), COLOREDS 2.4 MILLION (9.2 PER CENT) AND ASIANS 0.7 MILLION (2.8 PER CENT). THE STATISTICS DEPT HAS ALSO PUBLISHED FIGURES FOR THE PERIOD AFTER THE OCTOBER 1976 DECLARATION OF TRANSKEI INDEPENDENCE WHICH EXCLUDE THE DE FACTO (RESIDENT) POPULATION OF THE TRANSKEI AND GIVE TOTAL SOUTH AFRICAN POPULATION AS 24.1 MILLION WITH 16.5 MILLION BLACKS (68.4 PER CENT). ALL FOLLOWING DATA INCLUDES THE TRANSKEI. THE AVERAGE ANNUAL RATE OF INCREASE FOR THE POPULATION AS A WHOLE IS 2.5 PER CENT OF WHICH BLACKS ARE 2.6 PER CENT, WHITES 2.0 PER CENT, COLOREDS 2.6 PER CENT AND ASIANS 2.8 PER CENT. THE BLACK POPULATION FOR SOUTH AFRICA IS PROJECTED TO RISE TO 34.7 MILLION (OR 74.1 PER CENT) BY THE YEAR 2000.

B. BASED ON THE 1970 CENSUS, 53.6 PER CENT BLACKS LIVED IN THE "WHITE" AREAS (I.E. OUTSIDE THE HOMELANDS) OF SOUTH AFRICA AND 46.4 PER CENT IN THE HOMELANDS (INCLUDING THE TRANSKEI). THE 53.6 PER CENT OF BLACKS IN THE WHITE AREA IS COMPOSED OF 29.6 PER CENT IN URBAN AREAS AND 24 PER CENT IN RURAL AREAS. BLACKS ARE FAIRLY EVENLY DISTRIBUTED THROUGH THREE OF THE FOUR PROVINCES OF SOUTH AFRICA. WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE IS THE ONE MAJOR REGION WHERE BLACKS DO NOT FORM A MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION AS THE CAPE COLOREDS ARE THE LARGEST SINGLE GROUP IN THAT REGION.

C. THE HOMELANDS COVER 15.6 MILLION HECTARES  
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(HECTARE IS 2.47 ACRES) OR 13 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL LAND AREA OF SOUTH AFRICA AS OF 1975 (EXCLUDING NAMIBIA BUT INCLUDING THE TRANSKEI). SAG PLANS TO BRING HOMELAND AREA UP TO 17.6 MILLION HECTARES THROUGH THE PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL WHITE-OWNED LAND. THE HOMELANDS ARE LARGELY LOCATED IN AREAS OF SOUTH AFRICA RECEIVING HEAVIER RAINFALL AND AS A RESULT, ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL STATISTICS, CONTAIN 23 PER CENT OF THE USABLE, BUT BY NO MEANS BEST, AGRICULTURAL LAND IN SOUTH AFRICA.

D. THE POPULATION OF THE MAIN TRIBAL GROUPS AS OF JUNE 1975 WAS:

XHOSA	4,762,000
ZULU	4,890,000
SWAZI	574,000
PEDI (NORTH SOTHO)	1,955,000
TSWANA	2,045,000
SOUTH SOTHO	1,645,000
SHANGAAN	791,000

VENDA 437,000  
OTHER 598,000  
FOREIGN BLACKS 433,000  
TOTAL 18,136,000

THE DE FACTO (RESIDENT) POPULATION OF THE INDIVIDUAL  
HOMELANDS IN 1973 WAS GIVEN AS FOLLOWS:

TRANSKEI 1,929,000  
CISKEI 602,000  
KWAZULU 2,442,000  
QWAQWA 48,000  
BOPHUTHATSWANA 1,023,000  
LEBOWA 1,217,000  
VENDA 301,000  
GAZANKULU 298,000  
SWAZI 155,000  
TOTAL 8,015,000

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E. 42 PER CENT OF THE BLACK POPULATION IS UNDER 15  
YEARS OF AGE AND 54 PER CENT IS UNDER 20. OF THE BLACK  
POPULATION UNDER 15 YEARS OF AGE, 53 PER CENT RESIDED IN  
THE HOMELANDS ACCORDING TO THE 1970 CENSUS.

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3. ECONOMIC POSITION:

A. IN 1975, SOUTH AFRICA HAD A GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT AT CURRENT PRICES OF R24.6 BILLION (\$33.7 BILLION AT THE AVERAGE EXCHANGE RATE FOR 1975 OF R1.00 - \$1.37) AND A PER CAPITA GNP OF R968 (\$1,326). THE DEPT OF STATISTICS HAS NEVER COMPILED FIGURES FOR THE BREAKDOWN OF PER CAPITA GNP BY RACE. HOWEVER, THE THERON COMMISSION, USING THE DIFFERENT AND LOWER MEASUREMENT OF NATIONAL INCOME, HAS MADE ESTIMATES FOR THE INCOME DISTRIBUTION OF THE VARIOUS RACIAL GROUPS IN SOUTH AFRICA WHICH APPEAR TO BE A UNCLASSIFIED

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FAIRLY GOOD APPROXIMATION OF THE ACTUAL SITUATION. WORKING FROM A FIGURE OF R16.6 BILLION AT CURRENT PRICES FOR FY1974/75 NATIONAL INCOME (THE RESERVE BANK FIGURES ARE SLIGHTLY HIGHER), THE COMMISSION ESTIMATES GIVE AN OVERALL PER CAPITA INCOME FIGURE FOR ALL RACES OF R653 (\$894). BLACK PER CAPITA INCOME IS ESTIMATED BY THE COMMISSION AT R237 (\$324) IN FY1974/75. THIS COMPARES WITH R2,534 FOR WHITES, R496 FOR COLOREDS, AND R584 FOR ASIANS. THE TOTAL SHARE OF NATIONAL INCOME HELD BY BLACKS IN 1974/75 IS ESTIMATED AT 25.3 PER CENT. AFTER REMAINING VIRTUALLY UNCHANGED AT ABOUT 22.3 PER CENT FROM 1960 TO 1970, THE BLACK SHARE OF TOTAL NATIONAL INCOME IS ESTIMATED TO HAVE INCREASED BY 3 PER CENT BETWEEN 1970 AND 1975 TO R4.2 BILLION, WHILE THE BLACK PERCENTAGE OF THE POPULATION INCREASED BY 0.7 PER CENT. BETWEEN 1974/75 AND 1979/80, THE THERON COMMISSION PROJECTS THE BLACK SHARE OF NATIONAL INCOME TO RISE FROM 25.3 PER CENT TO 28.9 PER CENT AND PER CAPITA BLACK INCOME TO RISE TO R307 (\$420) AT CONSTANT 1975 PRICES. USING THE THERON ESTIMATE OF BLACK INCOME AS A PERCENTAGE BASE, IT IS POSSIBLE TO ESTIMATE BLACK PER CAPITA GNP AT R351 (\$480) IN 1975.

B. HOMELANDS ARE LARGELY OUTSIDE MARKED ECONOMY AND GNP LEVELS ARE SIMILAR TO LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES OF AFRICA. FOR FY1973/74 TOTAL GNP OF HOMELANDS WAS ESTIMATED AT R509 MILLION (\$742 MILLION) COMPARED TO R18,444 (\$26,897) FOR SOUTH AFRICA AS A WHOLE IN CY1973. PER CAPITA

## GNP IN INDIVIDUAL HOMELANDS IN 1973/74 ESTIMATED AS:

TRANSKEI R 68 (\$ 99)  
 BOPHUTHATSWANA R113 (\$165)  
 CISKEI R 66 (\$ 96)  
 GAZANKULU R 47 (\$ 68)  
 KWAZULU R 52 (\$ 76)  
 LEBOWA R 50 (\$ 73)  
 QWAQWA R 63 (\$ 92)  
 SWAZI R 32 (\$ 47)  
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VENDA R 36 (\$ 52)

THESE FIGURES DO NOT GIVE TRUE PICTURE BECAUSE GNI OF HOMELANDS IS ABOUT THREE TIMES GNP SINCE IT INCLUDES INCOME OF COMMUTERS TO WHITE AREAS AND MIGRANT WORKER INCOMES THAT FLOW BACK TO HOMELANDS. WE DO NOT HAVE INCOME DATA BROKEN DOWN BY HOMELAND TO GIVE ACCURATE FIGURES FOR EACH HOMELAND BUT PER CAPITA GNP IN 1973/74 WAS \$259 FOR ALL HOMELANDS COMBINED.

C. THE NUMBER OF ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE BLACKS IN SOUTH AFRICA IS GIVEN BY THE DEPT OF STATISTICS AS 7.1 MILLION IN 1976 OR 38 PERCENT OF THE BLACK POPULATION. THIS REFLECTS THE HIGH PERCENTAGE OF BLACKS (42 PER CENT) UNDER THE AGE OF 15. ONLY 25 PER CENT OF BLACKS IN THE HOMELANDS WERE CLASSIFIED AS ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE COMPARED TO 45 PER CENT IN THE WHITE AREAS. THIS IN TURN REFLECTS THE MOVEMENT OF ADULT MALES TO WHITE AREAS FOR EMPLOYMENT. OF THE TOTAL ADULT MALES, 65 PER CENT RESIDE IN THE WHITE AREAS VS. 52 PER CENT FOR THE BLACK POPULATION AS A WHOLE.

D. BASED ON THE 1970 DAT COUNTRY-WIDE 38 PER CENT OF ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE BLACKS WERE ENGAGED IN AGRICULTURE, 10.6 PER CENT IN MINING, 8.9 PERCENT IN MANUFACTURING, 5.4 PER CENT IN CONSTRUCTION, 5.2. PER CENT IN COMMERCE, 12.6 PER CENT IN SERVICES, 6.4 PER CENT IN GOVERNMENT AND 13 PER CENT NON-CLASSIFIABLE. SINCE 1970, THE PERCENTAGE FOR MANUFACTURING AND MINING HAVE REVERSED THEMSELVES, ALTHOUGH DATA ON ALL THE CATEGORIES IS NOT AVAILABLE. BLACK EMPLOYMENT FIGURES FOR THE VARIOUS SALARIED CATEGORIES IN 1975 WERE:

MINING	568,000	
MANUFACTURING	705,000	
CONSTRUCTION	325,000	
TRADE AND ACCOMMODATION		
SERVICES	333,000	
TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS	135,000	
ELECTRICITY	20,000	
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FINANCE	13,000
GOVERNMENT	487,000
FARM LABOR (FULL TIME)	71,000
FARM LABOR (PART TIME)	631,000

THE ABOVE FIGURES ON AGRICULTURAL WORKERS REFER ONLY TO SALARIED FRM LABORERS.

E. EARNINGS OF BLACK WORKERS (NON-AGRICULTURAL) HAVE SHOWN AN UPWARD TREND SINCE 1970 BOTH IN REAL TERMS AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF WHITE WAGES. NEVERTHELESS, THEY STILL COMPOSE A MAXIMUM AVERAGE OF 31 PER CENT OF WHITE WAGES IN THE HIGHEST SECTOR. AVERAGE MONTHLY BLACK WAGES IN FEBRUARY 1976 IN MANUFACTURING WERE R117 (\$136) COMPARED TO R60 IN 1972. AS A PERCENTAGE OF WHITE WAGES IN MANUFACTURING, BLACK WAGES GREW FROM 16.8 PER CENT IN 1972 TO 21.0 PER CENT IN 1976. IN RETAIL TRADE, THE BOWDLER

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AVERAGE MONTHLY WAGE WAS R78 IN 1976 COMPARED TO R49 IN 1972. THE GROWTH AS A PERCENTAGE OF WHITE WAGES WAS 29 TO 31.5 PERCENT. IN MINING, CASH WAGES IN 1976 WERE R82 PER MONTH COMPARED TO R22 IN 1972. THIS DOES NOT TAKE ACCOUNT, HOWEVER, OF THE FOOD AND ACCOMODATIONS WHICH ARE FURNISHED BLACK MINERS. BLACK MINERS' CASH WAGES GREW FROM 5.5 PERCENT OF WHITE WAGES IN 1972 TO 12.2 PERCENT. THE ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT OF BARCLAYS BANK CALCULATED IN AUGUST 1976 THAT BETWEEN 1970 AND 1975, UNCLASSIFIED

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REAL WAGES OF BLACK WORKERS (NON-AGRICULTURAL) INCREASED AT AN AVERAGE ANNUAL RATE OF 8 PER CENT COMPARED TO 1.3 PER CENT FOR WHITE. BETWEEN 1974 AND 1975, AVERAGE REAL BLACK WAGES GREW BY 12.5 PERCENT COMPARED TO 0.4 PER CENT FORR REAL WHITE WAGES. HOWEVER, GIVEN THE MUCH HIGHER BASE, THE REAL GAP (IN TERMS OF RANDS RECEIVED) BETWEEN WHITE AND BLACK WAGES CONTINUED TO INCREASE. WITH THE CURRENT RECESSION, WHITE WAGES ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE CONTINUED TO DECLINE IN REAL TERMS IN 1976 WHILE THE GROWTH OF REAL BLACK WAGES IN 1976 IS BELIEVED SUBSTANTIALLY LOWER THAN IN THE PREVIOUS FIVE YEARS.

F. THERE IS ALMOST NO COMPREHENSIVE DATA ON WAGES OF BLACK AGRICULTURAL WORKERS WITH STATISTICIANS USUALLY CITING THE PROBLEM OF VALUING PAYMENT IN KIND. HOWEVER, IT IS GENERALLY ADMITTED THAT AGRICULTURAL WAGES ARE SUBSTANTIALLY BELOW THOSE IN OTHER SECTORS. A RECENT STUDY BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OF AGRICULTURAL WAGES IN FIVE SELECTED AREAS FOUND AGRICULTURAL WAGES IN CASH AND KIND(EXCEPT OF HOUSING) VARIED FROM R38 TO R73 PER MONTH, DEPENDING ON THE AREA. THE CASH COMPONENT VARIED FROM R14 TO R42.

#### 4. EDUCATIONAL POSITION:

A. THE 1970 CENSUS SHOWED THAT FOR 20 PERCENT OF SOUTH AFRICAN BLACKS, THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION COMPLETED WAS 1ST TO 4TH GRADES, 14 PER CENT HAD COMPLETED ONLY 5TH TO 7TH GRADE, 5.7 PER CENT HAD COMPLETED 8TH TO 9TH GRADE, 1.6 PERCENT COMPLETED 10TH TO 11TH GRADE, AND 0.2 PERCENT FINISHED 12TH GRADE(HIGH SCHOOL). IN ADDITION 0.2 PERCENT (41,000) HAD RECEIVED SOME TYPE OF

ADVANCED DIPLOMA OR DEGREE. 58 PERCENT OF AFRICANS WERE REPORTED AS NOT HAVING REACHED AN IDENTIFIABLE LEVEL OF EDUCATION IN 1970.

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B. THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1976 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BANTU EDUCATION EXCLUDES FIGURES FOR THE TRANSKEI AND REPORTS THAT 3.3 MILLION BLACKS WERE REGISTERED IN SCHOOL IN 1976. OF THIS, 2.06 MILLION WERE IN LOWER PRIMARY SCHOOL (GRADES 1-4) AND 836,000 IN UPPER PRIMARY SCHOOL (GRADES 5-7). SECONDARY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT WAS 389,000. 408,000 WERE ENROLLED IN VARIOUS OTHER COURSES INCLUDING TEACHER TRAINING AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS. A TOTAL OF 5,2000 STUDENTS WERE ENROLLED IN THE THREE BLACK UNIVERSITIES IN 1976. 6,336 UNIVERSITY DEGREES HAVE BEEN CONFERRED ON BLACKS BY SOUTH AFRICAN SCHOOLS AS OF THE END OF 1975. THIS FIGURE DOES NOT COUNT TEACHERS WHO GRADUATED FROM TEACHER TRAINING COLLEGES. THERE WERE 62,000 BLACK TEACHERS IN SOUTH AFRICA (EXCLUDING THE TRANSKEI) ACCORDING TO THE 1976 REPORT.

C. THE 3.3 MILLION BLACK STUDENTS ARE DIVIDED INTO 1.4 MILLION THE THE WHITE AREAS AND 1.9 MILLION IN THE HOMELANDS. THERE WERE 1.6 MILLION PRIMARY STUDENTS IN THE HOMELANDS AS COMPARED TO 1.3 MILLION IN THE WHITE AREAS IN 1976. THE 389,000 BLACK SECONDARY SCHOOL PUPILS WERE DIVIDED BETWEEN 233,000 IN THE HOMELANDS AND 156,00 IN WHITE AREAS. IN OTHER POST-PRIMARY SEPCIAL COURSES (E.G. TEACHER TRAINING) 249,000 WERE ENROLLED IN THE HOMELANDS AND 159,000 IN THE WHITE AREAS. THE HEAVIER CONCENTRATION OF STUDENTS IN THE HOMELANDS REFLECTS THE FACT THE 53 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL BLACKS UNDER 15 YEARS OF AGE RESIDE IN THE HOMELANDS, ACCORDING TO THE 1970 CENSUS, WHILE FOR THE BLACK POPULATION AS A WHOLE, ONLY 48 PERCENT RESIDE IN THE HOMELANDS.

D. WITH REGARD TO QUALITY, AS OPPOSED TO QUANTITY OF EDUCATION, THERE ARE SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN EDUCATION OFFERED TO WHITES AND BLACKS. PER CAPITA EXPENDITURE FIGURES VARY BY PROVINCE BUT EXPENDITURES FOR WHITES ARE BETWEEN TEN AND FIFTEEN TIMES THAT FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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BLACKS. THE PUPIL-TEACHER RATIO FOR WHITES IS ONE TO TWENTY-TWO, FOR BLACKS IT IS ONE TO FIFTY-ONE. ONLY



1.6 PERCENT OF BLACK TEACHERS HAVE UNIVERSITY LEVEL  
QUALIFICATIONS AND MORE THAN 38 PERCENT HAVE JUNIOR  
HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL EDUCATION OR LOWER. EDUCATION FOR  
WHITES IS COMPULSORY AND FREE OF CHARGE, FOR BLACKS IT  
IS NOT COMPULSORY AND PARENTS MUST CURRENTLY PAY FOR BOOKS  
AND SUPPLIES. THE SAG HAS ANNOUNCED, HOWEVER, THAT FREE  
TEXT BOOKS WILL BE PHASED IN OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS  
AND A FORM OF COMPULSORY EDUCATION COVERING THE FIRST FOUR  
TO FIVE YEARS OF SCHOOLING WILL ADOPTED.

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